

**From:** [Nann, Barbara](#)  
**To:** [Miller, Garyg](#)  
**Subject:** FW: San Jacinto River Coalition Update  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2014 8:39:44 AM

---

**From:** Texans Together [mailto:info@texanstogogether.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2014 5:02 AM  
**To:** Nann, Barbara  
**Subject:** San Jacinto River Coalition Update

Sample Header for HTML formatted content.



Dear Friends:

The [San Jacinto River Waste Pits](#) were built in the 1960's and used throughout the 60's and 70's as a dump site for paper mill chemical waste. During that time, the pulp and paper mill waste was transported by barge and dumped at this site. The chemicals used by the paper mill are categorized as hazardous substances, by the U.S. Government, and may be leaking into the water and groundwater used by the communities surrounding the waste pits.

After the waste pits were created and filled to capacity in the 60's and 70's, the site remained abandoned for about 40 years. During that time, the toxic chemicals found in the waste pits were leaking into the surrounding environment. In 2005, Texas Parks & Wildlife rediscovered these waste pits while searching for the cause of dioxin and PCB contamination in Galveston Bay. In 2007, Congressmen Gene Green and Ted Poe petitioned the EPA to recognize the area as a [superfund site](#). The site was placed on the EPA's National Priorities List in March of 2008. In 2011, a cap was installed on the waste pits but was damaged during a relatively minor storm in July of 2012.

The only way to truly safeguard the community, the environment, and our children from the toxic substances contained in the pits is to fully remediate the site and remove the waste pits, and their contents, from the ecosystem. If a minor storm could compromise the cap, it is possible that a major storm or weather event could further put the surrounding communities and ecosystem at risk. It is imperative that we address the issue before we have to respond to it in an emergency situation. The health and safety of the families and ecosystem around the site depend on it.

Since 2010, Texans Together has fought tirelessly for the removal of the waste pits and remediation of the site. Our very own Jackie Young has been instrumental in leading the charge. After experiencing seizures, lesions, and even occasional temporary loss of motor functions, Jackie--an environmental geologist--made this a personal mission following her research of the environment.

Our efforts have been gaining more and more attention. On Friday, June 20, 2014, [Jackie spoke with local news station KHOU](#) about the issue, and earlier this month, Houston Chronicle editorial cartoonist Nick Anderson highlighted the waste pits and their dangerous effects as well



9561911

as Texans Together's role fighting for the removal of the waste pits, in his series "[The San Jacinto River: In Peril](#)". More information on this coverage is [also available on our blog](#).

This week we have another major announcement planned with regard to the San Jacinto River Waste Pits. Stay tuned for the latest updates on our ongoing efforts! Follow [Texans Together on Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and sign up for our newsletter at [TexansTogether.org](#). Information is also available through the [San Jacinto River Coalition's facebook page](#).

If you would like to help us continue our fight for the safety of the families and ecosystem around the San Jacinto River Waste Pits, please consider making a small donation. [Your gift of \\$50, \\$25, or even \\$10 can help us continue our important work of protecting families and our local ecosystem](#).



**Texans Together - P.O. Box 1296 - Houston, TX 77251-1296**

[Unsubscribe](#)

P.O. Box 1296

Houston, TX 77251-1296